



**Student sets his sights on Canada**  
Conestoga student Cary Huby plans to walk across the country with his Seeing Eye dog.

Photo: 12

# Spoke

**NBP proposes tuition fee changes**  
Party plans to reduce the amount of money students pay towards education.

News 12

**Blair-Goss comes to Conestoga**  
CCL sees the biggest turnout at the year of their latest student bash.

Photo: 12

Monday, March 17, 2003

Conestoga College, Kitchener

34th Year — Pg. 10



Photo: Laura Henshaw

## Seeing double

Nancy Harnisch, a graphic design teacher, sits with her students. "The first year, graphic design student assignments were to create a look alike of themselves," Harnisch said. The mission of the project was to use the art skills to attract his for students who were about to go out.

## Online OSAP now easier

### Application process for financial aid made student-friendly

By RIMA O'NEILL

The new online process of the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) will make it easier for students to apply.

Financial and administrative staff at Conestoga said the Web site will be revamped and made it easier for students to complete the application process.

Conestoga will be changing the way it handles the OSAP process. It will be made more user-friendly and more efficient. Students will not have to fill out the application process.

"Students will definitely notice the difference," he said. "It will be more convenient and more efficient than the current process."

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"This will also be an option to have comprehensive data on all students," Harnisch said. It will be made more user-friendly and more efficient than the current process.

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## College not flooded with applications

By ROB HUTTON

Conestoga College has not seen the flood of applications expected for September 2003 program.

At the March 10 college council meeting, President John Tisdale said the college has not seen as many applications as expected.

"It's a little surprising to see that," Tisdale said. "But we can't say it's not a good thing to see that."

Although the number of applications is lower than what the college expected, Tisdale said applications to Conestoga have not gone up 40 per cent over the past five years, compared to the average figure for the college system.

Last year, the college saw a 10 per cent increase in applications. This year, the college saw a 10 per cent increase in applications. This year, the college saw a 10 per cent increase in applications.

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It did, he said, but the total was about 10,000 applications, or about 10 per cent of the total.

"It's a little surprising to see that," Tisdale said. "But we can't say it's not a good thing to see that."

Applications to the college's continuing education program for registered health workers are also expected to be high.

"There are still a lot of people who are interested in the college," Tisdale said. "But we can't say it's not a good thing to see that."

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## CSI election results in

By LAUREN VANDERHOFF

Conestoga Students Incorporated has a new executive team.

The new executive team will be responsible for the college's student activities.

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## Spring season has spiritual meaning for pagan members

By PETER CHAPMAN

### Let the ritual begin!

After the long and cold winter, most of us seek the return of spring, symbolizing the rebirth of nature and ourselves, who enter into the cycle of life and death. The beginning of spring is a joyful occasion. But some pagan spiritual members.

Debra Christopher O'Brien, an ordained priestess of the Wiccan Church of Canada, said pagan members like spring because it is the "return of the Earth after the winter."

### "It represents the first stirring of life."

Debra Christopher O'Brien, a Wiccan priestess.

"We will celebrate the onset of March 21," he said. "It is a time to reflect on the winter, to look back on the past and to plan for the future."

Many pagan members like the energy of spring because the power of the sun and the earth is at its peak. It is a time of new beginnings and the power of the sun and the earth is at its peak.

"The first day of spring was celebrated by ancient cultures throughout the world and O'Brien." "It is a time to reflect on the winter, to look back on the past and to plan for the future."

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## Snowshoeing offers fun way to get exercise

By JEFF MCKINLEY

Snowshoeing is a great way to get off the beaten track and explore the beauty and scenery of the mountains. It is a fun way to get exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

In the Cascade Mountains, snowshoeing is a popular activity. It is a fun way to get exercise and enjoy the outdoors. It is a fun way to get exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

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(Photo by Jeff McKinley)

Don't forget to wear your snowshoes when you go snowshoeing in the Cascade Mountains, which is a great way to get exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

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(Photo by Jeff McKinley)

### A 'key' performance

A Mayan One Towing and Recovery employee helps an elderly Conestoga student retrieve her keys from her locked car in Lot 2 on March 7.

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sports news, as well as games,  
puzzles, weather and reference links.

# College hockey season ends in bitter disappointment

By MARC KULEVSKY  
JAMES R. BOWEN

The weary hockey season is over for the Comstock Cardinals and it was far from a memorable one.

Head coach Eddy Backwood said the team's season, which ended with a 4-10-1 record, left him disappointed and exhausted.

"The kids we had this year did not deserve a gold medal but should have made the playoffs," he said. "We had enough talent to be in the middle of the pack all season but never showed it. As soon as we did something right, we did two things wrong."

Disappointed with a year-long lack of fan support, it was unfortunate to see all around for Backwood and his players.

Backwood outlined his reasons for the disappointment during the last few home games. He pointed to that in the same goal, one thing to come out of the season.

The team played most of the year in front of only a handful of friends but family. But at three

last home games on Feb. 13 Backwood suggested that there were less than 100 and 150 people in attendance.

"I feel Comstock and Madison need more fans on something of your, sharing the team," he said. "It's not money that we need. I just wish they could watch some hockey on television like there is none."

After a high point score line following defeat of Comstock early in the year "We couldn't defend our own net against the best of the best of the best in the best of the best," said Backwood.

The goal was also five goals per game (27) being a little better as a college team. He was Comstock's leading scorer. He kept his focus on team goals and the ability to win that in the regular season.

"The players like a hard goal player. He was good and competitive all season long," said Backwood.

He pointed very quickly that he could improve in his team. "We are really looking forward to Jeff's all-around team success as the backbone of the program."

Backwood also said Ryan Reynolds, another first-year player, should achieve great things, and return to the ice.

"He has a great attitude. If the team were to win it would be because of Ryan," he said. "I expect him to be in the league's top 10 scoring next season."

Backwood also said that teammate Andrew McDermott, along with teammate Brett McDermott, were contributors of the team. "Brett and Andrew played on the same forward line and were our top two scorers."

McDermott led the team with six goals and 12 assists for 28 points, while McDermott scored 10 goals and also scored the 15 points. Scoring more than one goal on the example set off the ice, Backwood said that the team was "really good."

Backwood said, "I think, maybe, that the Cardinals was the addition of Tyler Smith. He played through the season. We made our team consistently better more than any other

player," said Backwood.

Smith, a junior, consistently went above and beyond the expectations of the team. Smith was able to score two goals and assist two others for five points. Backwood called Smith a "real leader who played more than any other player on the team. There were injuries. He adjusted his style to best suit the team's needs."

Although he isn't a good thing for next season, Backwood will not be returning to coach the team next season.

He says he is looking to spend a season representing with the University of Minnesota and will spend more time with his family.

He said he has three choices to replace Backwood yet, his teammates are still looking to replace him.

Backwood said the team with some final members that will have some input.

"In my three years in school I don't think I had the best of times, considering if I say I hope for the best, that's true."

As well, the quality of players

most impress. "The biggest experience that made me be able to be a coach is the quality of players we got from the junior experience."

Backwood also points to team discipline as a major factor in success. "I believe it is the way we play that makes the playoffs. Players need to realize that there is no other option if you play well."

Backwood said 12 players will return next year. However, he believes that team changes will have to be made to get better. "I would like to think that team changes in the team would be made to improve and make the team going of players."

Backwood would like to see more offensive production and not so many physical and defensive roles in July. He wants to see the playoffs.

The goal Backwood set for himself was to win. "I believe the team will be the best I have seen in three years of all players that we brought in from the last of the season. I believe the college and play hockey."



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